



LLANDEILO
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health
1956

ANNUAL REPORT
for the Year 1956

To the Llandeilo Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my 5th Annual Report for the Year Ended : 31st December, 1956, and to record that it was a good year for the health in the Urban Area. No cases of infectious diseases (other than tuberculosis) were notified and there was a slight fall in the number of deaths - There was also a marked fall in the number of births making the birth rate for the Urban less than half that of the whole County.

The Registrar General's estimated population figure was twenty fewer than in 1955.

During the year a welcome start was made in the Llandeilo and Ffairfach Joint Sewerage Scheme, the completion of which will remove a serious danger to public health in the area from pollution of the river by the crude sewage discharged into it from the existing sewers in the Town.

The Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 which came into force during the year will be the means of improving the standard of hygiene in food handlers as well as in food premises.

Also during the year the Sanitary Inspectors (change of Designation) Act, 1956, came into force changing the designation of Sanitary Inspector to Public Health Inspector a little better suited to the extended field of Public Health today.

My Report has again been divided into two sections:-

- (1) Medical Statistics, and
- (2) Sanitary circumstances in the area.

The second part has been prepared by the Public Health Inspector and I wish to take this opportunity of thanking him for his continued loyal support in the work of the Department, and the Members of the Council and Staff for their help and interest at all times.

I have the honour to remain
Your obedient Servant,

G.M. HERBERT

Medical Officer of Health.

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STATISTICS

The Area of the Urban District is 311 acres.

The estimated population for 1956 is 1860 a drop of twenty.

Rateable Value, Year Ended 31st March, 1956 - £9574.

Product of a 1d Rate, Year Ended 31st March, 1957 - £37.

LIVE BIRTHS

The number of births fell again from 26 in 1955 to 12 in 1956. Five of these were born at home compared with only two in 1955.

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	5	7	12
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Legitimate and Illegitimate	5	7	12

The Birth Rate for 1956 was only 6.45 per 1,000 estimated population.

The Birth Rate for Carmarthenshire for 1956 was 13.39 per 1,000 estimated population.

The Birth Rate for England and Wales for 1956 was 15.7 per 1,000 estimated population.

STILL BIRTHS

No Still Births occurred during the year.

The Still Birth Rate for Carmarthenshire for 1956 was 30.17 per 1,000 total births.

The Still Birth Rate for England and Wales for 1956 was 23.0 per 1,000 total births.

INFANT MORTALITY

There were no neonatal or infant deaths during the year.

INFANT DEATH RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS

	Llandeilo U.D.	Carmarthenshire County Council	England & Wales
Deaths under 1 year of age	0	31.11	23.8
Deaths of infants under 1 month	0	24.10	16.9.

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATES

There were also no deaths resulting from Pregnancy or Childbirth in the Area during 1956.

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES AT ALL AGES

There were 26 deaths during the year, 12 male and 14 female. This is a slight decrease on the previous year when the total was 29.

CAUSES OF DEATHS IN 1956

	Male	Female
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	0	1
Influenza, Bronchitis & Pneumonia	0	0
Other Repiratory Diseases	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0
Cancer	2	2
Cerebral Vascular Lesions	3	3
Coronary Disease	1	1
Other Heart Diseases	3	5
Other Circulatory Diseases	1	0
Digestive Diseases	0	0
Accidents	0	1
Other Illdefined Diseases	1	0
Suicide	1	0
Homicide	0	1
All Causes - Male	12.	
		Female 14.

DEATH RATES PER 1,000 ESTIMATED POPULATION

	Llandeilo U.D.	Carmarthenshire County Council	England & Wales
All Causes	13.98	13.58	11.7
Diphtheria	0.00	.0	-
Pneumonia	0.00	-	-
Tuberculosis(all forms)	0.55	0.13	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.00	-	-
Cancer (all forms)	2.15	2.5	-

CANCER

There were 4 deaths from Cancer, 2 male and 2 female - compared with 3 in 1955. The death rate was again lower than that for the County.

Classification of Deaths from Cancer

Ages					
	60-65		70-75		
Sites	Male	Female	Male	Female	TOTAL
Stomach		1			1
Lungs or Bronchus	1		1		2
Uterus				1	1

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS

No infectious diseases other than tuberculosis were notified in the Urban in 1956.

FOOD POISONING

No cases were notified in the Urban during the year.

DIPHTHERIA

It is gratifying to report again that at least for nine years no cases of diphtheria has occurred in the area, but to maintain this freedom from the disease it is necessary that children should receive the full course of inoculations. I am glad to report that there was again an increase in the number inoculated.

The following are the figures:-

Age 0 - 5 years who completed full primary course 43

Age 5 - 15 " " " " " " 5

Number who received reinforcing injections 4

The majority of these received combined inoculation against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough.

There was a considerable increase in the number and type of vaccination during the year. A number of infants received vaccinations against Smallpox. Separate figures are not available for Llandeilo but in the whole County 908 infants were vaccinated - 39.79% of the registered births for the year.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis was given to children in certain age groups the numbers for the whole County were:-

Those who received the full course of two injections 1149

Those who received one injection 57

B.C.G. Vaccination for Tuberculosis - this was also started for school leavers during the year in addition to the vaccination of case contacts. The figures for the whole County were:-

<u>Contact Scheme</u>	Number skin tested	543
	" found negative	320
	" vaccinated	295

<u>School Children Scheme</u>	Number skin tested	778
	" found negative	633
	" vaccinated	623

TUBERCULOSIS

3 new cases and 1 transfer were notified during 1956. There was one death from this disease during the year.

		Llandeilo U.D.		Carms. County Council.	
		Nos.	Rates	Nos.	Rates
New Cases	Respiratory	M. 0	F. 2 1.08	223	1.31
	Non-Respiratory	0	1 0.54	29	0.17
Deaths	Respiratory	0	1 0.54	23	0.13
	Non-Respiratory	0	0 0	0	0

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

The Mass Radiography Unit was stationed in the Town for 2 days during the year. 767 were examined - 51 or 6.65% were found to have some abnormality. 6 or 0.78% required further observation at the Tuberculosis Clinic. 3 others have since been notified as suffering from the disease. 45 or 5.87% had some other abnormality of the chest, these included 10 healed cases of Tuberculosis and 8 cases of Pneumoconiosis.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 SECTION 47

No Order was required under this Act during the year, but a few visits were made.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health:-

	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by L.A.'s.	20	0	0
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A.	1	0	0
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding outworkers premises)	0	0	0
	21	0	0

2. Cases in which defects found:-

	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions
Want of Cleanliness	0	0	0	0
Overcrowding	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable Temperature	0	0	0	0
Inadequate Ventilation	0	0	0	0
Ineffective drainage of floors	0	0	0	0
Sanitary Conveniences				
(a) Insufficient	1	1	0	0
(b) Unsuitable	0	0	0	0
(c) Not separate for sexes	0	0	0	0
Other offences (not including offences relating to outwork)	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	1	1	0	0

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

WATER

The supply of water to the Town is obtained from two sources (a) Maesevan Reservoir and (b) Llandyfan Spring.

Maesevan Reservoir is situated $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the Town at 397 O.D. and 110 feet above the highest point of the Town. The supply is derived from land springs above the reservoir, the latter having a capacity of 1,000,000 gallons.

Llandyfan Spring is situated $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the Town at 480 feet O.D. and 193 feet above the highest point of the Town. The supply is derived from a spring in a limestone stratum, with an estimated overflow of 1,000,000 gallons per day.

Both supplies are conveyed by gravitation to the Town in 5" cast iron pipes. The Maesevan pipe line is approximately 100 years old. Examination of the interior surfaces of the pipes show considerable incrustation. The Llandyfan mains are in good condition although 60 years old. This supply is chlorinated at the rate of .3 parts per million. A new Wallace and Tiernan plant has been installed at Derwydd.

The Town mains supply parts of Ffairfach and Rhosmaen in the Llandeilo Rural Area and the total population supplied is approximately 4,000. The average daily estimated consumption is 90,000 gallons. All Town properties have a piped supply except for 4 houses supplied by stand pipes.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE

The Sewers of the Town are combined, taking both sewage and surface water. The sewers serve the Town with the exception of several houses in the Nantyrhibo area, Brookland Terrace and the lower part of Bridge Street.

The sewers are constructed in stoneware pipes and culverts.

At present the sewage discharges untreated into the River Towy. A new Scheme for relaying the sewers is in progress and the outlets will be linked with the new trunk main (now nearing completion) to discharge into the new purification plant constructed under a Joint Scheme with the Town and the Rural District Council. On completion the sewer will take the drainage from Brookland Terrace and the lower part of Bridge Street referred to above.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

A twice weekly collection of household refuse is carried out by direct labour. At the commencement of the year the Council purchased a second hand vehicle and collection carried out was extremely satisfactory.

Disposal of Refuse is at tips outside the Town on privately owned land by agreement with the owners.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council employs a full time female operator. The services of the operator are free in respect of dwelling houses and a charge is levied in respect of business and other premises.

The Town sewers are treated twice yearly in accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries instructions. During the year extensive infestation was noted throughout the Town. This was effectively dealt with by your operator.

Rodent Control Cont.

It is clear that this infestation was largely due to rats gaining access to the Town via the stone culverts from the river. This infestation should fall sharply when the new sewers are constructed.

The following are details of the Operator's work:-

	Dwelling Houses	Business and other premises	Total
Number of properties inspected	244	6	250
Number of properties found to be infested with rats	130	6	136
Number treated	130	6	136

FOOD

The Food Hygiene Regulations 1955, replace Section 13, Food and Drugs Act, 1938. New provisions have been added in respect of the hygienic handling of food, the construction and maintenance of premises, stalls, vehicles and any premises where food is handled. The transport and carrying of meat is also included.

During the year leaflets were distributed to occupiers of food premises showing the requirements of the Regulations. As the result of personal visits, in most cases the requirements were carried out without difficulty. In some cases however, written notices were served.

The following are details of Food Premises within the Urban District:-

<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number of Inspections during the year</u>
Grocers	14	60
Bakers	4	14
Butchers	7	80
Fried Fish Cafes	2	24
Licences Premises	14	28
Dairies	2	24
Fish & Poultry	2	6

The Council owns a commodious Market Hall divided into Stalls. Four of the Stalls are occupied by butchers. At the end of the year the Council had proposals in hand to instal wash-hand basin, sink and constant hot water. It is anticipated that this work will be carried out early in 1957.

Stalls

Two Stalls are erected outside the Council's Market on Market days for the sale of fish, fruit and vegetables. Notices have been served on the owners to provide additional screening to comply with the Regulations.

The supply of hot water and washing facilities which the Council intends to instal in the Market will be made available for these Stallholders.

HOUSING

STATISTICS

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1. Number of new permanent houses erected during the year:- | Total |
| (a) By Local Authority | 8 |
| (b) By other bodies or persons | 1 |
| 2. Number of new permanenet houses under construction during the year:- | |
| (a) By Local Authority | NIL |
| (b) By other bodies or persons | 1 |

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:-

- | | |
|---|----|
| (1)(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 32 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | 70 |
| (2)(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under Sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925 and 1932 | 12 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | 12 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to unfit for human habitation | 6 |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonable fit for human habitation | 10 |

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without the service of formal Notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	5
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:-

A. Proceedings under Sections 9,10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | 1 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices: | |
| (a) By owners | 1 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | NIL |
| (c) Outstanding at 31st December, 1956 | NIL |

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	4
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By Owners	4
(b)	By Occupiers	NIL
(c)	By Local Authority in default of owners	NIL
(d)	Outstanding at 31st December, 1956.	NIL

C. Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	NIL
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	NIL
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted from the owners	NIL
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	NIL

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936

(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	NIL

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part 1v. :-

(a)(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	NIL
(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	NIL
(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	NIL
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	NIL
(c)(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	2
(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	12
7 (d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	NIL
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions	NIL

HOUSING ACT, 1949

During the year 9 applications for Improvement Grants were approved by the Council.

In three cases extensive repairs were carried out by the owners in addition to the improvements. In two cases there is no doubt that had the improvements and repairs not been carried out, the houses would have been uninhabitable in a very short period.

MEAT INSPECTION

The following are details of animals slaughtered and inspected during the year at the Council's Abattoir:-

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number Killed	952	183	5,259	1,110
Number inspected	952	183	5,259	1,110
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	188	NIL	117	5
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	19.8%	NIL	2.2%	14%
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Whole carcasses condemned other than with Tuberculosis	NIL	NIL	1	NIL
Whole carcasses condemned as a result of Tuberculosis	NIL	NIL'	NIL	NIL

2 Cases of cycticercus bovis occurred during the year.

All condemned and waste products are removed by Messrs. Bryn Products of Lampeter for processing into fertilizer etc.

The Council has installed a steam boiler operating with a pressure up to 80 lbs with four steam points at suitable places in the Slaughter Halls.

